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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/037,544

Examiner

LINH BLACK

Applicant(s)

OUCHI, NORMAN KEN

Art Unit

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/21/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 5-22 (Renumbered as 1-18).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 December 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 20050426 .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Moll, Robert on April 26, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. On the Amendment dated 9/21/04, in the dependent claim 5, after the limitation
“Validating and correcting the data in the table New Version based on changing”
delete: “the”
insert: “any erroneous”
2. In the dependent claim 5, after the limitation “Validating and correcting the data ...to
correspond to a dictionary of correct data”
insert: “resulting in a table Validated/Corrected New Version”
3. In the independent claim 5, after the last limitation: “setting the table Data to Use to”
delete: “a”
insert: “the”

The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

4. The prior art of record fails to teach the limitations of independent claims 5 and 13,
particularly: ” initializing the table Past and the table Data to Use by setting the data
contained to null values; ...validating and correcting the data in the table New
Version based on changing erroneous data to correspond to a dictionary of correct
data resulting in a table Validated/Corrected New Version” is not found in the prior

art of record. (Applicants disclose: "Supplier catalogs typically list many parts and materials. Thus, many changes in the dictionary are irrelevant to a contract manufacturer making a given product and should be filtered out. Otherwise, the program updates the dictionary based on changes to irrelevant data. FIG. 3B illustrates the system of FIG. 3A with the addition of a filter function to remove irrelevant data contained in the dictionary. As shown, the filter 18 (depicted as Table 15--Part Filter) limits the changes to the dictionary 15 to only those of interest as discussed above in connection with the design document filter. Unlike the document filter, the catalog filter must also detect if a catalog entry is missing. This will cause it detect the change in the Acme 1-kiloohm resistor even if Acme fails to indicate the change to part number 234 to 235 since part number 234 would be missing from the Acme catalog.)

5. Kawamura Kazuyoshi, Patent Abstracts of Japan, Publication Number: 04-266138, with the publication date: 22.09.1992 teaches "to assure the matching properties of a data base without overlooking a necessary table despite a large updated variable by referring to a dictionary" – purpose. However, Kawamura Kazuyoshi does not explicitly suggest "initializing the table Past and the table Data to Use by setting the data contained to null values; ...validating and correcting the data in the table New Version based on changing erroneous data to correspond to a dictionary of correct data resulting in a table Validated/Corrected New Version".

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6. Dependent claims 6-12, 14-22 incorporate the listed limitations by reference and contain limitations that further distinguish over the art of record. For these reasons, claims 6-12, 14-22, are considered allowable over the art of record.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LINH BLACK whose telephone number is 571-272-4106. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am - 5pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN BREENE can be reached on 571-272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



January 21, 2005

LINH BLACK
Examiner
Art Unit 2167



Primary Examiner